

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-14 USIA-04 ACDA-10 IO-03 SAM-01 DRC-01 /076 W

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R 080715Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2318

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1522

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SO

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI MEETING IN KHARTOUM

REF: A. STATE 217518; B. KHARTOUM 2266

1. MOFA DIRECTOR GENERAL ABDURAHMAN, WHEN ASKED BY AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 4 ABOUT SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS, REITERATED SOMALI INTENTION TO LET ETHIOPIANS WORK OUT THEIR INTERNAL PROBLEMS WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. HE STATED THAT GSDR READY FOR SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA, BUT TROUBLED ETHIOPIAN INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION MAKES THIS INOPPORTUNE TIME CONDUCT SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. WHILE SPECIFIC QUESTION OF REPORTED SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN DISCUSSIONS IN KHARTOUM WAS NOT RPT NOT TOUCHED, CONTENT AND TONE OF ABDURAHMAN'S REMARKS CLEARLY IMPLIED THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

2. OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES ALSO MAKE US DKZCFQJAL THAT KHWDTUOM MEETING TOOK PLACE. FONMIN OMAR ARTEH SPENT FIRST WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER IN BRAZZAVILE FOR EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICAN SUMMIT, THEN AT KINSHASA, LIBREVILLE, BUJUMBURA, ETC. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES TO MANAGE SIDE TRIP TO
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KHARTOUM. MOREOVER, WE UNDERSTAND ETHIOPIAN FONMIN WAS ALSO

AT BRAZZAVILLE, AND THEREFORE, A MEETING AT KHARTOUM WOULD HAVE BEEN UNNECESSARY AS WELL. WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER ARTEH AND ZEWEDE TALKED AT BRAZZAVILLE ABOUT THEIR COMMON PROBLEMS.

3. WE ASKED LOCAL NIGERIAN DIPLOMAT, WHO IS KNOWLEDGABLE ABOUT OAU COMMITTEE OF EIGHT ACTIVITIES, IF ETHIOPIANS AND SOMALIS HAD MET TOGETHER RECENTLY UNDER COMMITTEE'S AUSPICES (SUDAN JW NIGERIA ARE MOST ACTIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE) AND KHARTOUM MEETING MIGHT HAVE BEEN ARRANGED BY COMMITTEE OF EIGHT. HE SAID THAT HE KNEW OF NO SUCH MEETING, AND WAS REASONABLY SURE IT HAD NOT TAKEN PLACE.

KIRK

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